

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00882 01 OF 02 021616Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /079 W
-----000127 021639Z /46

O R 011527Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7211
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 882

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, WA, SF
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: NEXT STEPS WITH THE SAG

REF: A) USUN 1751, B) USUN 1753, C) USUN 1754

1. WE AGREE THAT THE INTERPRETATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA'S
STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL WILL COME BACK TO
HAUNT US. WE LIKEWISE CONCUR THAT STEYN'S REPUTATION
FOR IMPARTIALITY IS VITAL TO A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION
PROCESS. WE WILL NO DOUBT HAVE TO DEAL WITH THESE TWO
PROBLEMS ON A CONTINUING BASIS.

2. AS REF B NOTES, DISTURBING ELEMENTS IN THE SOUTH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00882 01 OF 02 021616Z

AFRICAN RESPONSE HAVE IN SAME MEASURE BEEN ADDRESSED
IN STATEMENTS BY THE FIVE AT THE SPECIAL UNGA. WE
WONDER WHETHER THE FIVE MIGHT NOW SEEK TO DRAW
ATTENTION AWAY FROM THE WORRISOME SOUTH AFRICAN
INTERPRETATIONS AND FOCUS INSTEAD ON THE ESSENTIAL:
SOUTH AFRICAN COMMITMENT TO THE PROPOSAL. THE SAG
HAS ALREADY REPEATEDLY SOUTH REAFFIRMATION OF OUR

UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL AS IT STANDS;
WE CAN LEGITIMATELY ASK THE SAME OF THE SAG.

3. AS A FIRST STEP, WE SUGGEST IT WOULD BE TIMELY NOW FOR THE FIVE TO APPROACH THE SAG IN THE SPIRIT OF CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE ABOUT THE COURSE OF OUR EFFORTS. SUCH APPROACH WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST MADE THURSDAY, MAY 4, --I.E., AFTER THE END OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA, ABOUT WHICH WE MAY WANT TO SAY SOMETHING TO HEAD OFF UNHELPFUL SOUTH AFRICAN REACTION, AND BEFORE THE MEETING WITH SWAPO TENTATIVELY SET FOR FRIDAY, MAY 5.

4. THE FIVE'S DISCUSSION WITH THE SAG MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:
(A) WELCOME SAG'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL, PERHAPS ALONG THE LINES OF THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO BOTHA (STATE 107349). (THE FIVE AS A GROUP HAS NOT YET DIRECTLY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS STEP.)
(B) REITERATE AGAIN THAT THE FIVE STAND BEHIND THEIR PROPOSAL. (BOTH BOTHA AND VORSTER HAVE MADE CLEAR THE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO SUCH REASSURANCE.)
(C) STATE THAT THE FIVE TAKE SOUTH AFRICA'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL AS FIRM AND A COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT IT SCRUPULOUSLY AS IT STANDS. EMPHASIZE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00882 01 OF 02 021616Z

THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE WORLD BE GIVEN NO REASON TO SEE THE SOUTH AFRICAN COMMITMENT IN ANY OTHER LIGHT. WE MIGHT NOTE THAT THERE ARE MANY SUSPICIONS TO OVERCOME IN THIS REGARD.
(D) UNDERSCORE, IN THIS LIGHT, THE IMPORTANCE OF SOUTH AFRICA SEIZING ALL OPPORTUNITIES TO DEMONSTRATE ITS GOOD FAITH, MAKING CLEAR IN PARTICULAR THAT:
--IT FULLY ACCEPTS THE PROPOSAL AND WILL ABIDE BY IT.
--THAT NO PARTY SHOULD TAKE ANY ACTION INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROPOSAL.
--AND THAT THE AG WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE UNSR HAS THE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ORDERLY TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE.
(E) STRESS AGAIN THE CENTRAL ROLE PLAYED BY STEYN AND THE VITAL NATURE OF HIS REPUTATION FOR IMPARTIALITY. NOTE IN THIS CONTEXT THE DAMAGE DONE BY THE WHOLESALE DETENTION OF THE INTERNAL SWAPO LEADERS. WE MIGHT AT THE SAME TIME WELCOME THE RECENT DISMISSAL OF CHARGES AGAINST TWO SWAPO MEMBERS, NKANDI AND MANNING (CAPE TOWN 877 AND 822). WE COULD EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE INTERNAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM ACTS WILL BE SOON REPEALED AS THEY APPLY

TO NAMIBIA AND THAT STEYN WILL SHORTLY TAKE OVER
AUTHORITY FOR POLICE AND JUSTICE AFFAIRS. WE COULD
URGE AS WELL THAT THE RECENTLY DETAINED SWAPO
LEADERS BE RELEASED OR AT LEAST THAT STEYN ANNOUNCE THAT
THESE LEADERS WILL BE FREED IN ACCORD WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF THE PROPOSAL IMMEDIATELY UPON
ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

(F) ADVISE THE SAG THAT, WITH NO INTENTION
OF MODIFYING THE PROPOSAL, WE WILL BE CONTINUING OUR
CONSULTATIONS WITH SWAPO IN NEW YORK, STRESSING THE
IMPORTANCE OF DEMONSTRABLE SOUTH AFRICAN GOOD FAITH
TO THE PROGRESS OF THOSE CONSULTATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAFE T 00882 02 OF 02 021624Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /079 W
-----000199 021637Z /46

O R 011527Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7212
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 882

5. AS WE HAVE NOTED (CAPE TOWN 871), THE SAG IS AWARE
OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF WESTERN DECLARATION
ON WALVIS BAY. WHILE IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST TO
AVOID BRINGING UP THIS ISSUE WITH THE SAG AT THIS TIME,
BOTH MAY RAISE IT HIMSELF ON THE BASIS OF RECENT
PRESS REPORTS. WE SUGGEST WE BE PREPARED TO RESPOND
ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:
--THE FIVE UNDERSTAND SOUTH AFRICAN CONCERNS IN THIS MATTER.

--THE FIVE GOVTS ARE CONSIDERING STATEMENTS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF NAMIBIA.

--IF SUCH STATEMENTS ARE MADE, THEY WILL NOT
CHALLENGE THE LEGAL POSITION OF THE PARTIES AND THEY
WILL NOT BE PART OF OR IN ANY WAY MODIFY THE PROPOSAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00882 02 OF 02 021624Z

6. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT AS AN ADDITIONAL MEASURE,
THE CONTACT GROUP MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INSTRUCTING
REPS OF THE CAPE TOWN FIVE TO VISIT
WINDHOEK TO CONSULT WITH LOCAL LEADERS AND PARTICULARLY
STEYN. WITH THE LATTER WE COULD TALK ESSENTIALLY
ALONG THE SAME LINES AS THE PROPOSED APPROACH TO THE SAG,
STRESSING ESPECIALLY POINTS D AND E. SUCH A VISIT BY CAPE
TOWN REPS WOULD ALSO RESPOND TO BOTHA'S
COMPLAINT MAY 1 TO THE PRESS THAT WE ARE AGAIN TALKING
ONLY TO SWAPO AND IGNORING THE OTHER NAMIBIAN GROUPS.
WE SUGGEST THAT THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR, WHO KNOWS STEYN
RATHER WELL NOW, AND THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR, WHO IS
WELL ACQUAINTED IN WINDHOEK, WOULD BE APPROPRIATE
FOR SUCH A MISSION.
NELSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REFORM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAPET00882
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780187-0041
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805106/aaaadmuw.tel
Line Count: 197
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0ab5a494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 1751, 78 USUN NEW YORK 1753, 78 USUN NEW YORK 1754
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2533227
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: NEXT STEPS WITH THE SAG
TAGS: PDEV, WA, SF
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0ab5a494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014